

# **MAJOR DONOR**

## **"STREAMLINED" PROGRAM**

### **2000 OVERVIEW**

- Step 1** **RAW DATA** - Obtained database of electronic filings from Secretary of State containing **1,814** individual contribution records totaling **\$58,911,296.13** in contributions received that were each \$2,500 or larger.
- Step 2** **ANALYSIS** - The 'raw' data was analyzed, sorted and organized by contributor to exclude those whose state contributions failed to meet a \$10,000 threshold.
- Step 3** **PUBLIC CONTACT** - **780** public education contacts were made 30 days prior to filing deadline with the assistance of the Technical Assistance Division.
- Step 4** **RESEARCH** - The major donors' filing activity was manually researched and confirmed. **623** had timely filed, leaving **157** potential non-filers.
- Step 5** **FIRST ENFORCEMENT CONTACT** - Questionnaire mailed first class to the **157** potential non-filers. **80** of these either had filed or were not required to file. The remaining **77** potential violators were monitored to confirm they filed. This resulted in:
- 42 - Tier 1 violations that were prosecuted - \$ 17,600 penalties**
- Step 6** **SECOND ENFORCEMENT CONTACT** - Certified letter sent to the remaining 35 non-filers. This resulted in:
- 19 - Tier 2 violations that were prosecuted - \$ 11,400 penalties**
- 1 - Tier 3 violation that was prosecuted - \$ 2,000 penalty**
- Step 7** **FULL INVESTIGATION** - **15** cases were referred to full investigation because:
- Information was developed indicating additional serious violations of PRA
  - Decision was made by Enforcement to exclude due to size of contribution
  - Respondent requested a probable cause hearing
  - No response was received from respondent

# MAJOR DONOR "STREAMLINED" PROGRAM 2000 HIGHLIGHTS

- Substantial public education contacts were made - **780 contacts**
- A trend of increased voluntary compliance by Major Donor committees has been established - **85% reduction** in identified violations from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-annual periods, corresponding to a 56% decrease in proportional violations.
- Over **\$ 3 million** in contributions were identified and disclosed by major donors to the public that would otherwise not have been reported by the donors.
- **Swift Enforcement action** was taken. The Major Donor 'streamlined' cases were open on average for only **56.1 days**.
- **62 'streamlined' cases initiated, investigated and settled within 11 months** from the date that the oldest violation occurred.
- **\$ 31,000 in penalties collected.**
- **Fifteen proactive investigations** have been launched into more serious violations.